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Mercury wins award And hears Lt. Gov. candidates

The Carlisle Mercury was awarded a First Place plaque in statewide competition for newspapers of under 3,000 circulation Friday at the annual spring meeting of the Kentucky Weekly Newspaper Association held at Berea College.

The award was given for the column, "Is This Career?" written by Mercury editor Jim B. Wankle.

The Bath County News-Outline also won several awards, including a First Place in feature writing by Ken Metz, son of Russ and Margaret Metz of Owensboro.

The candidates
A highlight of the two day meeting was a luncheon attended by four of the six candidates running for Lieutenant Governor, a new market by an absence of publicity, overshadowed by the race for governor.

Speaking to the group of weekly newspaper publishers and editors were Governor Herman Kendall, Steve Beshear, Allen Barkley II and George Atkins.

Kendall, a personal off-ender, walked around the room shaking hands ahead of the speeches asking all the publishers the same question, "Do I owe you any money?" Kendall also complained that one editor had published a news release as a paid advertisement and demanded payment, when the item was intended to be editorial material. Kendall said he had been born in Rowan County and brought with him a small replica of a pig trough and an empty plastic one.

George Atkins, former state finance secretary in Brown's cabinet and candidate for governor in the last election, spoke second.

"You need to study the candidate for Lt. Governor," Atkins said, "and determine which one has the necessary qualifications. We need a strong working partner with our next governor."

"I have the training and experience and will work with your problems to find answers," Barkley said.

Speaking third was Allen Barkley II, who said his experience in the agriculture department had prepared him to be Lieutenant Governor. "We saved over a million dollars by how we administered the food programs for schools."

Barkley went on to say that he was a

farmer and understood the problems of the "regular folks." He also promised to eliminate the inheritance tax on family farms.

Speaking fourth was Steve Beshear, current attorney general, now a candidate for Lieutenant Governor.

"Experience is important," Beshear said. "I was a state legislator for six years and I know how the government works. I have been attorney general for 3 1/2 years."

Beshear said he had fought child abuse and welfare fraud and has tried to fight the utility increases. He urged voters to look at his record as attorney general.

In questions asked by editors and publishers, after the main speeches were over, three out of four candidates said they were for a tax on unmined minerals, mainly coal. They all had no reservation about it however, and that was how do you measure it when it's still in the ground?"

The candidates also were asked how they rated the Brown administration. Atkins and Beshear said the Brown administration had done some things right. When Barkley's turn came to

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Overflow crowd sees Martha Layne
Nicholas County political rally in my memory," Jock Conley told the Mercury. Martha Layne is shown, flanked by Sen. Ed Ford, greeting the guests. — Mercury photo.

Excess burley Total now more than 20 million pounds

By Brent Hersh
Although the burley auction closed many weeks ago, another wave of farm-to-market tobacco trucks has been traveling the highways for the past month.

The movement is part of the government-ordered carryover program, by which farmers are allowed to dispose of 1982 crop excesses tobacco.

The amount has been surprisingly large, passing the 20-million pound mark a week before the April 22 deadline for deliveries.

Coming on the heels of the largest market volume in years, and extra-heavy loan tobacco deliveries, the

carryover lot has jammed receiving stations and processing plants. It has swollen usual 1982 tobacco to 20 million pounds, when added to the 20,800,000 pounds held by the Burley Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association.

When the carryover program was decided upon last winter by the USDA, it was announced as an emergency, one-time program. Now that the volume has exceeded all expectations, and increased supply problems, the Burley Association is hoping it won't be repeated.

Growers quotas
Carryover of 1982 crop tobacco is

charged against the grower's quota for the next crop. Next fall it will be offered for sale by sealed bids, but in view of the supply situation burley buyers say the outlook is not good for buying it. Any unsold will go into the Burley Association's repair pool stocks.

Another move to eliminate price supports
Another move is to be Senate to eliminate tobacco price supports, according to Sen. "Doc" Holliston of Kentucky.

Senator Howard Metzenbaum, long time foe of tobacco support prices, and Sen. Jahn Carn of Utah, are again spearheading the effort.

In a "Dear Colleagues" letter mailed to other senators, Carn, a Utah Republican, and Metzenbaum, an Ohio Democrat, said there was a "growing inconsistency" in the government's tobacco program and its efforts to discourage smoking. And because of tightening government budgets, the senators said they would introduce "can no longer be justified."

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The response from senators in tobacco states is immediate and vociferous.

Tobacco's opponents, however well motivated they believe themselves to be, appear to be blind to the economic realities of both the tobacco producers,

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AT&T breakup Causes telephone change

Editors note: As many readers may know, South Central Bell — with other telephone businesses — is being through important changes. These changes affect everyone who uses a telephone, and Carl Hess, district manager for Bell, offered The Carlisle Mercury this explanation of what's happening and why.

South Central Bell has asked the Kentucky Public Service Commission for permission to buy your leased phone. If the PSC okay the plan, we'll begin offering phones at discounted prices. When it's approved, we'll give you a choice of phones to choose from and we'll also work with The Carlisle Mercury to keep you posted.

South Central Bell may get back in the phone equipment business after the breakup. We haven't decided what we'll do; there's a lot to consider.

Long distance calling
South Central Bell will handle some long-distance calls within Kentucky. Bell calls to other states, and longer calls within Kentucky, will be handled by your choice of long-distance companies, such as AT&T, MCI, Sprint and others. They will be competing for your long distance business. It's likely this competition will cause long-distance rates to drop.

Since January 1, we've operated under new rules set by the Federal Communications Commission. These new rules haven't changed things much, and we're providing just about all the services we did before. However, these rules will come in as far as phone this year might notice a change later in the year — we might not have the telephone set they need.

The new rules say we can't stock our shelves as we use our inventory. Already, supplies of some phones are running low, but there are ample supplies of others.

Jan. 1, 1984 is the target date for the second wave of change — the break-up of the Bell System.

This breakup is the result of an agreement between AT&T and the federal government that ended an eight-year old antitrust lawsuit against AT&T.

Nicholas 'pothole alert' is operating again

Transportation Secretary James Burke is asking Kentucky motorists to assist state maintenance crews in the battle against road potholes.

The Transportation Cabinet has mounted a "spring offensive" campaign to tackle the damage to state-maintained roads caused by a combination of winter weather and heavy traffic. State crews have already started filling potholes, patching roads and clearing ditches and right of way.

"The people who drive the roads every day are the first to know when a problem develops," Burke said. "If the public alerts the state maintenance garages to potential problems, we can prevent minor problems from becoming more costly reconstruction."

Motorists are asked to first notify the person most familiar with their area — the members of the state maintenance garage for their county. If the problem is not solved, then the district highway manager should be called, Burke said.

Citizens in Nicholas County should contact Chad Whitaker at the maintenance garage in Carlisle. The telephone number is 606-288-3392. If the problem persists, general manager Jim Brown at the cabinet's Flemingsburg district office can be reached at 606-840-2551.

In reporting a pothole or drainage problem, citizens are asked to provide the exact location by highway number and how far it is from a local landmark, such as an intersection or bridge.

Fire Dept. puts fire truck in Moorefield

County Fire Chief Woody Wilson told the Mercury this week that the county again has a fire truck in Moorefield.

"The small fire truck that used to be there is back again," Wilson said, "at the home of Dick Garrett, who will be in charge of the truck."

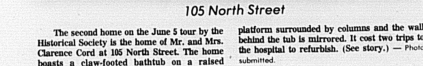
Anyone in the Moorefield area within a three to five mile radius of the community who has a fire to report should call the Moorefield phone number first. Call 288-2314 days and 288-7340 at night.

If necessary, these people may call the regular Nicholas County fire number later, which is 288-2341.

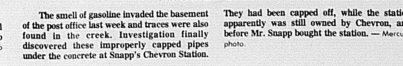
Garrett will have a fire crew of four or five persons to assist.

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105 North Street
The second home on the June 5 tour by the Historical Society is the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Cord at 105 North Street. The home boasts a claw-footed bathtub on a raised platform surrounded by columns and the wall behind the tub is mirrored. It cost two trips to the hospital to refurbish. (See story.) — Photo submitted.



An almost situation
The smell of gasoline invaded the basement of the post office last week and traces were also found in the creek. Investigation finally discovered these improperly capped pipes under the concrete at Snapp's Chevron Station. They had been capped off, while the station apparently was still owned by Chevron, and before Mr. Snapp bought the station. — Mercury photo.